## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

### (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

**PCT** 

# (10) International Publication Number WO 2004/110867 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: 65/00

B65B 31/02,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2004/002017

(22) International Filing Date: 17 June 2004 (17.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: BO2003A000374

19 June 2003 (19.06.2003) IT

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): I.M.A. INDUSTRIA MACCHINE AUTOMATICHE S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via Emilia Levante, 428-442, I-40064 Ozzano Dell'Emilia (IT).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): BIGONI, Pietro [IT/IT]; Via 2 Agosto, 47, I-48024 Massa Lombarda (IT).

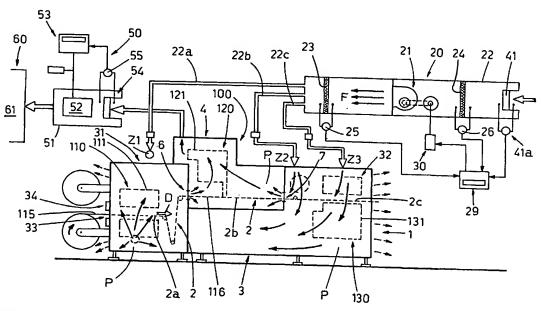
- (74) Agent: DALI'OLIO, Giancarlo; Invention S.a.s., Via delle Armi 1, I-40137 Bologna (IT).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### Published:

with international search report

[Continued on next page]

### (54) Title: A METHOD AND STRUCTURE FOR ENCLOSING A PACKAGING MACHINE



(57) Abstract: A method and a structure (1) are provided for enclosing a packaging machine (100), which can be divided in at least two work areas or portions (110;130,120) having different operation tasks, arranged one after another along a packaging line (2) of the machine (100). The structure (1) includes a plurality of enclosing panels (P), suitably assembled together to form enclosing chambers (3,4) for protection of each of the work portions (110;130,120). At least one of the enclosing chambers (3) is aimed at enclosing, a pressurized environment Viand at least the other chamber (4) is aimed at enclosing an environment, whose pressure is substantially constant and equal to the outside pressure.

### WO 2004/110867 A1



 before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.